

THE LED

Published by the
Livingston Amateur Radio Klub
Howell Michigan

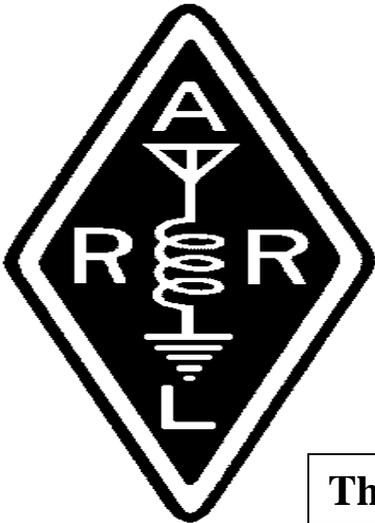
FEBRUARY

<http://www.qsl.net/milark>

This issue will be the last one sent if 2003 dues are not paid

Livingston Amateur Radio Klub
PO Box 283
Howell, Michigan 48844

Dated Material



This issue will be the last one sent if 2003 dues are not paid

NEXT KLUB MEETING
February 13th 7:30 P.M
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER
300 SOUTH HIGHLANDER WAY

NET
146.680 SUNDAY 9:00 P.M.

BOARD MEMBERS

President	Steve	N8GQ
Vice-President	Bill	K8BI
Secretary	Mary	KC8SER
Treasury	Dave	KE8Z
Program Director		
Tech Coordinator	Kenny	N4KCD
Board Member	Jerry	N8DY

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON'S

146.680 Repeater	Jack	KA8BOG
LED Editor	Roger	N8SGU
VE Coordinator	Greg	AA5GO

THE PREZ'S NOTES

Amateur Service

How does one change a term codified in law? How does one change the public's perception of who we are and what we are all about?

Much has been written this month about our service. In QST there was a lengthy Op-Ed piece on whether we are really amateurs. (QST Feb 2003, pge. 95) On the QRZ website there has been an ongoing discussion regarding this article with arguments for and against the word "amateur". Then, in World Radio (Feb, 2003 pge. 38) Jim Wade talks about the "Deadbeats" who won't participate in any type of traffic net or public service event or training.

Part 97; which we are all supposed to know all about codifies the "Amateur Radio Service". It defines the service, the bands, the operator, the station and how it is controlled. It defines the basis and purpose. Public service, emergency communication, noncommercial communication, encroachment, expansion, and experimentation are all outlined and described as a means of justifying our privileges.

The question here is are we being good stewards of our privileges or just nitpicking about terms and participation?

Let's look at some numbers. Jim contends that there are roughly 21,000 licensed radio amateurs in Michigan. Out

of all of these radio amateurs, only 1700 or so are registered with any ARES or RACES organizations. There may be others who participate in other organizations so let's assume 1800 participants. That is only 9% who are registered with an ARPSC organization state wide. If we observe a 25% active participation role as is the case your numbers drop to 450 or only 2%. Is this supporting and portraying a good "public service?"

How do we fair in Livingston County? There are roughly 450 licensed amateurs (using 2002 data) in this county. Of those Bruce (N8WWX) carries 31 on the books for ARES/RACES or 7%. I would have to say of those 31, between the MS150, Field Day, and Skywarn we do much better in "active" participation than the statewide numbers display. That being said I feel we could much better than 7%.

Are we amateurs or professional communicators? Who knows! What I do know is those that make the laws can change the laws. Those that follow the rules do just that. We just go along. However; we do need to do a better job of defining who we are to the public, and continue to use the privileges that we have or our airwave WILL be sold to the highest bidder, or absorbed into the federal labyrinth.

Received the following note from one of our past members and thought I would share it with one all.

I must say I am quite impressed with your WEB site! I am a former President and Secretary of the LARK (1984-86) and note the "Klub" has grown into a very diverse group with many fun and worthwhile activities.

As some of you "old-timers" may or may not know, I am currently living in West Columbia, SC. My interests are currently in HF QRP as I am awaiting delivery of a FT-817. (Living in an apartment has its disadvantages as antennas go.

Hopefully I can work some of the members on HF. I have lost touch with so many. I would welcome e-mail from all.

73 for now,

Paul Hummel K9BOJ

phummel@sprintmail.com

<mailto:phummel@sprintmail.com>

73 Steve N8GQ

EDITORS COMMENTS

I want to Thank Steve N8GQ for getting the LED printed and mailed. Due to all the Holidays the material for the LED was late getting to me and than I found out I had to work at my part-time job so I couldn't get to a printers and get it printed and mailed in time. Steve took on the task and we got it mailed in time for the meeting.

For some reason I am still having trouble with a few E-mail address's. I found out two of them were bad but the other ones I just resent and they went through. If any one has anything they would like printed in the LED please send it to me at rjackson@cablespeed.com and I will clear it with the board and if they approve it will be inserted. I would like the material no later then the 27th of the month. Thank you

Roger N8SGU

TREASURER REPORT GENERAL OPERATING FUND DECEMBER 2002

Opening Cash:	\$2,405.82
Total Income:	\$273.00
Total Expenditures:	\$102.85
Net Cash Flow:	(\$170.15)
Ending Cash:	\$2575.97

INCOME: TOTAL

50/50 Drawing:	\$21.50
Donations:	\$101.50
Dues:	\$150.00

EXPENDITURES

Donation Made:	\$80.00
Printing:	\$12.48
Postage:	\$9.62
Sales Tax:	\$0.75

Dave KE8Z Treasurer LARK

TREASURY REPORT EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS FUND JUNE 1, 2002 – DECEMBER 31, 2002

End of year summary

Opening Cash:	\$895.75
Ending Cash:	\$895.75

Dave KE8Z Treasurer LARK

Secretaries Report General Meeting 01/09/03

The program was one hour and 10 minutes long. The speaker was Joseph Kasser, VK5WU/G3ZCZ. His website address is www.qsl.net/vk5wu. His entire program was put on a CD ROM and sent to Steve. It was shown to LARK members and guesses. If there had been any questions Professor was available in his office, in Australia, to answer them by telephone. Since there were no questions a very short call was placed to the Professor thanking him for his wonderful presentation.

The meeting opened at 9 P.M. with the Pledge of Allegiance being recited. Bruce, N8WWX, made a motion to accept the Secretaries report as published in the January LED. Mac, N8RBA, seconded. A guest, made a comment about a donation and he was advised that that subject should be brought up under the treasurer's report. The motion was passed. Bob, K8PBA, made a motion that the Treasurers report, as published in the Januarys LED be accepted. Rick, KC8HEZ seconded the motion. At this time the treasure explained the donation. Motion passed.

Operation Care: Everything should be in place by April 15th. This includes scheduling and donations.

Awards Banquet: The banquet is scheduled for March 9th however, there is a chance that there may be a change. Finial date and place will be announced on the DVR.

Youth Group: January 18th was the first meeting and it is hoped that there was a good showing of young people attending.

Sunday Night Net: Jack is there as net control most every Sunday night. Lets get more people to take an interest and check into the net.

Door Prizes: The door prizes were won by Jack, Isaac and Roger.

50/50: Roger, N8SGU, won \$12.50 this month.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary, KC8SER

.SECRETARY'S REPORT LARK BOARD MEETING

January 20, 2003 Minutes

The Board met Monday the 20th of January. There was no club business discussed.

Respectfully Submitted

Mary, KC8SER

PROGRAM AGENDA

February will be Emergency communications. Tactical nets by Bob Hitchens

March will be a General Business Meeting

April will be on Batteries (Various Technologies)

May brings us to General Election of Officers

OPERATION CARE

The LARK members at the December meeting expressed unanimous interest in doing an Operation Care for the Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends. We could do it, but do we really want to? On the down side, we make about \$2 per hour which does not take into account members' expenses for gasoline, etc. But is Operation Care just about money? Livingston County hams have an exemplary record of public service. We usually have 20+ check-ins for skywarn nets. Bob, mobile K8PBA, literally drove to Hell in the dark in a blinding rain to get vital observations for the net and The National Weather Service. Mac, N8RBA gives me a heads-up on bad weather even before the 911 center contacts me. Dave, KE8Z is always there with his weather station information. Kenny, N4KCD has made himself available to leave his work and go immediately anywhere directed. I could go on for pages. My point is, Livingston County hams want to serve.

What do we have and what do we need?

A chairperson to plan and work out the schedule, equipment details, apply for the permits, and financial procedures. Tim has volunteered to do this.

Two coordinators, who cannot be scheduled to work any shifts. Since the chairperson will be out of town for both Memorial and Labor Day weekends the coordinators would ensure that shifts are covered and supplies delivered. Each coordinator would cover 2 days. Greg, AA5GO and Rick, KC8HEZ have volunteered.

Display boards promoting Amateur Radio. Ray, N8CPO and Tom, AB8IT have already created these and they are in Tom's possession.

An RV

A donations chairperson.

A group to set up and another group to take down.

34 4hr shifts. The total is really 40 shifts but 6 have been volunteered for.

With the exception of one brave Klub member it is hoped that no one will have to work more than two 4hr shifts. Mac, N8RBA has volunteered to work 6 shifts from 12 midnight to 8 a.m. for all the mornings (nights) if the bananas turn brown. The idea of running from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. was abandoned when Mac pointed out that it would be difficult to get any sleep at the rest area and that for some travelers the most needed time is between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. We will never know if our efforts at Operation Care prevent a tragedy but it's worth the effort. Between the 2 holiday weekends we will generate between \$2000 to \$3000, not too shabby for trying to prevent an accident.

All commitments will be considered tentative until they confirm 1 month prior to the events.

Klub activities are about service, fun and camaraderie, no one should feel obligated. If Klub members have travel plans, family responsibilities, or just don't care to participate in these events it's OK.

Please don't wait to be called. If you're willing to be tentatively scheduled for a shift or two, setup or take down group, have an RV or are willing to chair the donations committee please contact me on 146.68, by email wb8hro@amsat.org, by telephone (517) 546-2063, or sign up on the lark website at <http://www.qsl.net/milark>. Operation Care **will not** occur if these positions are not tentatively filled well in advance. Donation commitments must be secured well in advance. I hope to have enough help that no one is overly burdened and Mac will not have to work all 3 nights. No one will work alone. XYL's working after dark will always work with an adult OM.

73 WB8HRO/TIM

MILFORD SWAP

I have received a Flyer on the Milford Amateur Radio Club "Swap-n-Shop".

"Buy or sell Amateur Radio Gear, Computers, or Electronic Equipment.

Milford High School
2380 Milford Rd
Highland, MI

Date: Saturday, April 5, 2003 8:00 am – 1:00 pm"

Along with the flyer there were two FREE tickets.

I will give the two tickets to the FIRST two requests I receive. Call me at (517) 521-4488 or send a e-mail to ke8z@arrl.net if you are interested in the tickets.

Dave KE8Z

VE Testing

The next schedule VE session will be Tuesday March 11th. In addition to Amateur Radio testing anyone wishing to take any of the Emergency Communication course exams may also do so. Remember to bring any CSCE's that you may have and that exam fees have been increased to \$12.00

YOUTH CLUB

Hi the Jan. meeting had small turnout. The Feb. meeting is at STRIKING LANES in Hartland 15 N. Old Us 23 Sun. Feb.16 2:00 pm. every one welcome.

Thank You,
Paul West(KC8UKF)

High Speed Multimedia Hamming Could Be the Next Big Thing

NEWINGTON, CT, Jan x, 2003--High-speed multimedia hamming via "The Hinternet" could be the next big thing for Amateur Radio. That's the hope of the ARRL High Speed Multimedia (HSMM) Working Group, which is adapting the highly popular IEEE 802.11b Part 15 wireless Internet protocol to Part 97 amateur operating.

“We expect it to be nothing less than revolutionary!” says John Champa, K8OCL, who chairs the ARRL HSMM Working Group--a subset of the League’s Technology Task Force. The Working Group’s new “High-Speed Digital Networks and Multimedia” page </> recently premiered on the ARRL Web site.

<http://www.arrl.org/hsmm>

“The development of the ARRL 802.11b protocol will significantly enhance Amateur Radio, especially with respect to emergency communication and support of public service activities,” Champa predicted. He and his HSMM Working Group colleagues also expect that it will attract many technically oriented users of the Internet and wireless LANs to get their amateur tickets--and possibly to even join the ARRL.

“An emergency volunteer equipped with a laptop or a wireless PDA (personal digital assistant) with a microphone, a small video camera now has the tools to be a mobile set of eyes and ears in the midst of a communications emergency,” says working group member Kris Mraz, N5KM. An article by Mraz on amateur 802.11b is scheduled to appear in a future issue of *QST*.

In Michigan, the Livingston County HSMM Experimenters Team already has three HSMM access points--called “APs” in the commercial world--and about a dozen stations on the air centered on 2437 MHz. Another group has recently organized in the San Antonio, Texas, area. Although other amateur allocations also would be appropriate for Hinternet operation, the use of 2.4 GHz was an easy choice, since Part 15 WiFi devices already operate in that part of the spectrum, and commercial equipment is widely available.

2450 MHz band, where amateurs have primary and secondary allocations. The FCC last year proposed elevating amateurs to primary at 2400 to 2402 MHz. Part 15 users have no legal standing when it comes to interference, but that’s not widely understood or appreciated among the WiFi community

Dewayne Hendricks, WA8DZP, the CEO of the Dandin Group, a Silicon Valley wireless technology firm, says unlicensed WiFi users are in denial. “They

have no rights, but they’re starting to act as though they do,” he said. Hendricks says WiFi users have come to believe that their vastly larger numbers give them more rights than those of the current handful of licensed users, such as amateurs. The WiFi industry doesn’t always make clear the implications of the regulatory environment either, Hendricks maintains. If there’s interference, “ham radio becomes the bad guy,” he predicted. Beyond that, there’s the problem of illegal Part 15 users who have deployed enhanced high-power systems and high-gain antennas to broaden the reach of their wireless Internet nodes.

